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LEDBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Report of Medical Officer of Health  
1918.

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THE YEWS,

LEDBURY,

16th April, 1919.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

ANNUAL REPORT.

You again honoured me by re-appointing me as Deputy for Dr. Harrison, who was still absent on military service. Mr. R. G. Gurney, your Sanitary Inspector, being also still in the Army, on April 11th you appointed Mr. T. Cawsey as Temporary Sanitary Inspector for the duration of an epidemic of Measles, and on 3rd June extended his appointment for the duration of Mr. Gurney's absence.

I beg to report that 46 Births have been registered in your district during the year 1918, of which 23 were males and 23 females. Six of these were illegitimate, and of these one was from outside the Urban District. The Birth Rate for the district on a total population of 2956 is 15.5.

There were also registered 91 deaths. Twenty six of these were non-residents, and the Death Rate of those belonging to the Urban District on a population (civilians only) of 2638 is 26 1.

Of these deaths 14 were of persons between 80 and 90, 16 between 70 and 80, 12 between 60 and 70, and 4 over 90.

Only one death occurred in infants under one year. It was due to Measles in a legitimate boy, aged 10 months.

The chief causes of death, besides senile decay, were: Influenza 20, Heart Disease 7, Measles 6, Tubercular Disease 2, Cancer 1. Three deaths were certified by the Coroner.

The list of notifiable Infectious Disease is as follows: Measles 131, Tubercular Disease 17, Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas and German Measles one each.

Ledbury was visited by two severe epidemics during the year.

During March and April, 131 cases of Measles were notified. Only the first case in each house is notifiable, so this represents a very much larger total number of cases. The disease was of a fairly severe type and there were six deaths, three males aged 10 months, 22 months and 2 years, and three females aged 13 months, 4 years and 5 years respectively.

There were a few cases of Influenza imported from Hereford in July, but the disease did not assume epidemic proportions until the first week in October. Between then and the middle of December, the incidence was almost universal. No area in the District escaped, and no occupation could be said to be particularly affected. There were numerous cases of Pneumonia, and owing to the shortage of doctors and trained nurses many of them received very inadequate attention. Even untrained assistance was very difficult to obtain as illness was so universal that few could leave their own families to help neighbours. Between October 22nd, and December 17th, 24 deaths occurred from Influenza and its complications, nine males aged 4, 7, 16, 25, 32, 34, 47, 55 and 55, Fifteen females aged 5, 5, 8, 12, 14, 17, 25, 28, 32, 34, 36, 45, 46, 52 and 62 respectively. Of these, three males aged 25, 32 and 55, and one female aged 45 were non-residents.



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The deaths from Tubercular Disease were two males, aged 27 and 47.

Dr. Gold and Dr. Lowe from time to time visited Ledbury to carry on the work of the Tubercular Dispensary. Suitable reported cases are sent to the Dispensary where they receive advice as to general and Sanatorium treatment.

You are still without an Isolation Hospital, a matter which should receive attention now that the war is over.

There is a shortage of houses in your District. Many houses also are in a very bad state of repair and several should be condemned as unfit for human habitation as soon as other accommodation is available.

The town water has been examined and found of good quality and free from contamination.

There has been no change in any other matter usually dealt with in the Annual Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. BARTLEY McKEAN.

*The Ledbury Urban District Council.*

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# Report of Sanitary Inspector, 1918.

1.	Notices served (formal and informal)	...	...	...	...	...	59
2.	Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	24
3.	Notices outstanding	...	...	...	...	...	35
4.	Letters written	...	...	...	...	...	23
5.	Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	10
6.	Legal proceedings taken	...	...	...	...	...	0
7.	Nuisances investigated	...	...	...	...	...	13
8.	INFECTIOUS DISEASE.						
	Enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	174
	Removals to Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	174
	Bedding, Clothing, &c. disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	174
	Schools disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Shelters disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Hospitals disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	0
9.	HOUSES.						
	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	62
	Houses erected	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Houses cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
	Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Closed or demolished	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Made fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	0
10.	WATER SUPPLY.						
	Wells sunk	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Wells deepened, repaired, or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Wells closed	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Samples analysed	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Water certificates granted	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Connected to main supply	...	...	...	...	...	227
11.	HOUSE DRAINS.						
	Laid, relayed, cleansed, trapped	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Spouting, waste pipes, sinks, &c., rectified	...	...	...	...	...	3
	Cesspools cleansed and repaired, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	0
12.	WATER CLOSETS, URINALS, &c.						
	Provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
	Improved and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	0
13.	PRIVIES, ASHPITS.						
	Provided	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Converted to W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Converted to earth closets	...	...	...	...	...	0
14.	SCAVENGING.						
	Privies, Receptacles, &c., cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Ashpits, Cesspits, &c., emptied, work carried out by Council, also removal of refuse (weekly)						
15.	Slaughter houses (weekly)	...	...	...	...	...	3
16.	Milkshops and Dairies, none within the District	...	...	...	...	...	0
17.	Lodging Houses, inspections, cleansed, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	20
18.	Workshops and Bakehouses, inspections, cleansed, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	30
19.	Unsound food seized, two hind and two fore quarters of beef, three sides of Bacon and two hams	...	...	...	...	...	9
20.	Offensive Trades, none within the District	...	...	...	...	...	0
21.	Nuisances from animals improperly kept and accumulations of manure removed	...	...	...	...	...	0
22.	Miscellaneous nuisances investigated	...	...	...	...	...	0
23.	Hoppickers quarters, none within the District	...	...	...	...	...	0

THOMAS CAWSEY.

